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[Among all the individual combinations to be found in ancient or modern history, there is none so remarkable as that of the celebrated *Society of Jesuits*. The talents, zeal, the *esprit de corps*, and the power possessed by it, were manifested in every part of the known world. Its prodigious, and, for a time, successful efforts, in propagating Christianity in Asia, in which they ultimately failed, might throw some light on the expensive exertions now making among us for the same purpose, if the causes of their failure could be demonstrated. A philosophick history of this society is a desideratum in Literature.—We hope we do not mistake when we flatter ourselves, that the author of the following remarks will continue the subject.]

THE JESUITS.

To the Editor of the North-American Review,

THE JESUITS had scarcely appeared in the world, when they were found to be spread through the Universe with a rapidity most astonishing; they became the masters of education, and of seminaries of learning, the confessors of kings, the dispensers of favours, the distributors of posts in the state, civil, military and ecclesiastical; sometimes even of crowns; in one word, the arbiters of all the great events. They were seen to acquire immense riches in real estates, in benefices, which they attached to their houses; they were seen to form establishments the most solid and the most splendid; they were seen to lay the foundations of a monarchy, capable of supporting itself against powerful princes.

How could these poor beggars, as they called themselves, so suddenly arise to an empire so extensive and so absolute! So absolute, that they were able to sport with the fortunes, the lives, the liberties, and the understandings of so many other men? This is a prodigy, which hereafter will appear to be fabulous to posterity.

This incomprehensible prodigy, nevertheless, has subsisted for three hundred years. In what region of the universe, have not the Jesuits established themselves, enjoying immense riches, and a credit formidable to kings and nations, to nobles and commons, to clergy and laity!

I am, sir, without fire or fagot, rack, chains or gibbet, pillory, prison or penalty, an

INQUISITOR.